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marked gains almost without exception. Thus 1913 was the banner year for cement, which gains more than 11 per cent. over 1912, and record outputs are also shown for lime, building sand and gravel, sand-lime brick and glass sand. Other mineral products for which 1913 was a record-breaking year, are bauxite and aluminum, sulphuric acid, feldspar, mica, pottery, and talc and soapstone, while substantial increases are reported for gypsum, phosphate rock, abrasives, barytes, slate and salt. These production figures all express well-maintained activity in mines, smelter, furnace and mill, and prove that the American people are utilizing more of the nation's great natural resources than ever before. A few weeks later when figures are at hand for all of the mineral products, it is expected that 1913 will be found to have overtopped both 1912 and 1907 which have hitherto held the record.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

MR. ASA G. CHANDLER has given \$1,000,000 and citizens of Atlanta have guaranteed \$500,000 for the establishment of an Atlanta University, under the auspices of the Methodist Church. It is said that a theological school will be the first to be opened.

BOWDOIN COLLEGE has received a gift of \$15,000 from the estate of Dr. Frank Hartley, of New York, to establish a scholarship fund as a memorial to the testator's father, John Fairfield Hartley, of the class of 1829.

THE following changes take effect in the botanical department of the Michigan Agricultural College, September 1: Mr. E. F. Woodcock, of the botanical department of West Virginia University, has been appointed instructor in botany to succeed Dr. R. F. Allen, who has recently accepted a similar position at Wellesley. Professor H. T. Darlington, of Washington State College, has been appointed assistant professor of botany and will have especial charge of the botanical garden and herbarium. An industrial fellowship in cucumber diseases has been established by the H. J. Heinz Pickle Company, and is filled by Mr.

S. P. Doolittle, who graduated from the institution this year.

IN the law department of Tulane University of Louisiana, Mr. C. P. Fenner, professor of Louisiana practise and acting professor of civil law, has been appointed dean of the department to succeed Mr. D. O. McGovney, who has been called to the University of Missouri.

DR. NATHAN FASTEN, Ph.D. (Wisconsin), has been appointed instructor in zoology at the University of Washington, Seattle.

MR. FREDERICK SODDY, lecturer in physical chemistry in the University of Glasgow, has been appointed to the chair of chemistry at the University of Aberdeen, in succession to Professor F. R. Japp.

PROFESSOR J. S. MACDONALD, professor of physiology in the University of Sheffield since 1903, has been appointed Holt professor of physiology in the University of Liverpool, in succession to Professor C. S. Sherrington.

MR. G. N. WATSON, M.A., fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed a member of the staff of the department of pure mathematics at University College, London, for the next year to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. A. N. Whitehead.

MR. T. B. JOHNSTON, M.B., lecturer on anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, has been appointed to the newly-created office of lecturer and demonstrator in anatomy at University College, London.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE PROBLEM OF GRAVITY

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Some recent public utterances from sources that command attention and respect in the scientific world as well as among the general public illustrate rather forcibly the crude and confused state of thought on this subject that continues to prevail up to the present day. These also suggest that the ordinary and obscure thinker need not be deterred from attempting a contribution that may possibly be helpful by the feeling of greatly superior attainments in this